

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of storing additional information, comprising the steps of:

receiving additional information obtained and transferred by a receiver capable of receiving a broadcast in which the additional information is multiplexed with main information including an audio signal or a video signal;

determining whether preset key information is included in the transferred additional information; and

storing the additional information in a storage medium if the key information is included.

2. A method of storing additional information according to Claim 1, wherein if the additional information includes a data portion consisting of a payload and a header portion consisting of information associated with the payload, information which may be included in the header portion of the additional information is set as the key information, and if the key information is included in the header portion, the additional information including the header portion is stored in the storage medium.

3. A method of storing additional information according to Claim 1, wherein if the additional information

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includes a data portion consisting of a payload and a header portion consisting of information associated with the payload, information which may be included in the header portion of the additional information is set as the key information, and if the key information is included in the header portion, the data portion associated with the header portion is stored in the storage medium.

4. A method of storing additional information according to Claim 1, wherein said storing step stores, in addition to the additional information including the key information, the main information of the associated program in the storage medium.

5. A method of storing additional information according to Claim 1, wherein said storing step stores accompanying information in association with the additional information.

6. A method of storing additional information according to Claim 1, wherein said receiver also receives additional information of a program other than the program being received and transfers the additional information.

7. A method of storing additional information

according to Claim 1, further comprising the steps of transferring the additional information stored in the storage medium to said receiver, wherein said receiver displays the transferred additional information on a display unit of thereof.

8. A method of transferring additional information, comprising the steps of:

receiving a broadcast in which additional information is multiplexed with main information including an audio signal or a video signal, thereby obtaining the additional information;

determining whether preset key information is included in the additional information obtained; and

transferring the additional information to an external device if the key information is included.

9. A method of transferring additional information according to Claim 8, wherein if the additional information includes a data portion consisting of a payload and a header portion consisting of information associated with the payload, information which may be included in the header portion of the additional information is set as the key information, and if the key information is included in the header portion, the additional information including the

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header portion is transferred to the external device.

10. A method of transferring additional information according to Claim 8, wherein if the additional information includes a data portion consisting of a payload and a header portion consisting of information associated with the payload, information which may be included in the header portion of the additional information is set as the key information, and if the key information is included in the header portion, the data portion associated with the header portion is transferred to the external device.

11. A method of transferring additional information according to Claim 8, wherein said transferring step transfers, in addition to the additional information including the key information, the main information of the associated program to the external device.

12. A method of transferring additional information according to Claim 8, wherein said receiving and obtaining step also receives and obtains additional information of a program other than the program being received.

13. A method of transferring additional information according to Claim 8, further comprising the step of

transferring the additional information stored in the storage medium to said receiver, wherein said receiver displays the transferred additional information on a display unit thereof.

14. A method of transferring additional information according to Claim 8, wherein said determining step stores the additional information in storage means if it is determined that the key information is included, and said transferring step transfers the additional information stored in the storage means to the external device at a predetermined timing.

15. A method of transferring additional information according to Claim 8, wherein said determining step stores the additional information in storage means if it is determined that the key information is included, and said transferring step deletes the additional information from the storage means after the additional information has been transferred.

16. A method of storing additional information, comprising the steps of:

receiving a broadcast in which additional information is multiplexed with main information including an audio

signal or a video signal, thereby obtaining the additional information;

determining whether preset key information is included in the additional information obtained;

transferring the additional information to an information processing terminal if the key information is included; and

storing the additional information transferred to the information processing terminal in a storage medium of the information processing terminal.

17. A method of storing additional information according to Claim 16, wherein if the additional information includes a data portion consisting of a payload and a header portion consisting of information associated with the payload, information which may be included in the header portion of the additional information is set as the key information, and if the key information is included in the header portion, the additional information including the header portion is transferred to the information processing terminal and stored in the storage medium.

18. A method of storing additional information according to Claim 16, wherein if the additional information includes a data portion consisting of a payload and a header

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portion consisting of information associated with the payload, information which may be included in the header portion of the additional information is set as the key information, and if the key information is included in the header portion, the data portion associated with the header portion is transferred to the information processing terminal and stored in the storage medium.

19. A method of storing additional information according to Claim 16, wherein said transferring step transfers, in addition to the additional information including the key information, the main information of the associated program to said information processing terminal, and said storing step stores the transferred additional information and main information in the storage medium of said information processing terminal.

20. A method of storing additional information according to Claim 16, wherein said storing step stores information obtained in the information processing terminal in association with the additional information.

21. A method of storing additional information according to Claim 16, wherein said receiving and obtaining step also receives and obtains additional information of a

program other than the program being received.

22. A method of storing additional information according to Claim 16, further comprising the step of transferring the additional information stored in the storage medium to said receiver, wherein said receiver displays the transferred additional information on a display unit thereof.

23. A method of transferring additional information according to Claim 16, wherein said determining step determines the additional information in storage means if it is determine that the key information is included, and said transferring step transfers the additional information stored in the storage means to the information processing terminal at a predetermined timing.

24. A method of storing additional information according to Claim 16, wherein said transferring step transfers the additional information in response to a transfer request issued by the information processing terminal.

25. A method of storing additional information according to Claim 16, wherein said determining step stores

the additional information in storage means if it is determined that the key information is included, and said transferring step deletes the additional information from the storage means after the additional information has been transferred.

26. A receiver comprising:

a receiving unit capable of receiving a broadcast in which additional information is multiplexed with main information including an audio signal or a video signal;

a control unit which determines whether key information preset in said receiver is included in the additional information received by said receiving unit; and

a communications unit which transfers the additional information received by said receiving unit to an external device if said control unit determines that the key information is included in the additional information.

27. A receiver according to Claim 26, wherein if the additional information includes a data portion consisting of a payload and a header portion consisting of information associated with the payload, information which may be included in the header portion of the additional information is set as the key information, and if the key information is included in the header portion, the additional information

including the header portion is transferred to the external device.

28. A receiver according to Claim 26, wherein if the additional information includes a data portion consisting of a payload and a header portion consisting of information associated with the payload, information which may be included in the header portion of the additional information is set as the key information, and if the key information is included in the header portion, the data portion associated with the header portion is transferred to the external device.

29. A receiver according to Claim 26, wherein in addition to the additional information including the key information, the main information of the associated program is transferred to the external device.

30. A receiver according to Claim 26, wherein said receiver unit also receives additional information of a program other than the program being received.

31. A receiver according to Claim 26, further comprising a display unit for displaying additional information, wherein at least part of the additional

information transferred to the external device is transferred from the external device via said communications unit, so that the transferred additional information is displayed on said display unit.

32. A receiver according to Claim 26, further comprising storage means for storing additional information, wherein the additional information is stored in said storage means if it is determined that the key information is included, and the additional information stored in said storage means is transferred to the external device at a predetermined timing.

33. A receiver according to Claim 26, further comprising storage means for storing additional information, wherein the additional information is stored in said storage means if it is determined that the key information is included, and the additional information is deleted from said storage means after the additional information has been transferred.

34. An information processing terminal comprising:
a data communications unit for receiving additional information obtained and transferred by a receiver capable of receiving a broadcast in which the additional information

is multiplexed with main information including an audio signal or a video signal;

a control unit which determines whether preset key information is included in the transferred additional information; and

storage means for storing the additional information if said control unit determines that the key information is included in the additional information.

35. An information processing terminal according to Claim 34, wherein if the additional information includes a data portion consisting of a payload and a header portion consisting of information associated with the payload, information which may be included in the header portion of the additional information is set as the key information, and if the key information is included in the header portion, the additional information including the header portion is stored in said storage means.

36. An information processing terminal according to Claim 34, wherein if the additional information includes a data portion consisting of a payload and a header portion consisting of information associated with the payload, information which may be included in the header portion of the additional information is set as the key information,

and if the key information is included in the header portion, the data portion associated with the header portion is stored in said storage means.

37. An information processing terminal according to Claim 34, wherein if said control unit determines that the key information is included in the additional information, in addition to the additional information including the key information, the main information of the associated program is stored in said storage means.

38. An information processing terminal according to Claim 34, wherein if said control unit determines that the key information is included in the additional information, accompanying information obtained by said information processing terminal is stored in association with the additional information.

39. An information processing terminal according to Claim 34, at least part of the additional information stored in said storage means is transferred to said receiver via said communications unit.

40. A method of transferring additional information, comprising the steps of:

transmitting to a first information processing terminal additional information obtained by a receiver capable of receiving a broadcast in which the additional information is multiplexed with main information including an audio signal or a video signal;

determining on said first information processing terminal whether key information preset in said first information processing terminal is included in the transmitted additional information; and

transferring the additional information from said first information processing terminal to a second information processing terminal at a destination if the key information is included.

41. A method of transferring additional information according to Claim 40, wherein if the additional information includes a data portion consisting of a payload and a header portion consisting of information associated with the payload, information which may be included in the header portion of the additional information is set as the key information, and if the key information is included in the header portion, the additional information including the header portion is transferred to said second information processing terminal.

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42. A method of transferring additional information according to Claim 40, wherein if the additional information includes a data portion consisting of a payload and a header portion consisting of information associated with the payload, information which may be included in the header portion of the additional information is set as the key information, and if the key information is included in the header portion, the data portion associated with the header portion is transferred to said second information processing terminal.

43. A method of transferring additional information according to Claim 40, wherein said transmitting step transmits, in addition to the additional information, the main information of the associated program to said first information processing terminal, and said transferring step transfers, in addition to the additional information including the key information, the main information of the associated program to said second information processing terminal.

44. A method of transferring additional information according to Claim 40, wherein said transferring step transfers accompanying information obtained by said first information terminal in association with the additional

information.

45. A method of transferring additional information according to Claim 40, wherein said receiver also receives additional information of a program other than the program being received and transmits the additional information.

46. A method of transferring additional information, comprising the steps of:

receiving additional information by a receiver capable of receiving a broadcast in which the additional information is multiplexed with main information including an audio signal or a video signal;

determining on said receiver whether key information preset in said receiver is included in the received additional information;

transmitting the additional information to a first information processing apparatus at a source if the key information is included; and

transferring the additional information from said first information processing terminal to a second information processing terminal at a destination via a communications network.

47. A method of transferring additional information

according to Claim 46, wherein if the additional information includes a data portion consisting of a payload and a header portion consisting of information associated with the payload, information which may be included in the header portion of the additional information is set as the key information, and if the key information is included in the header portion, the additional information including the header portion is transmitted to said first information processing terminal.

48. A method of transferring additional information according to Claim 46, wherein if the additional information includes a data portion consisting of a payload and a header portion consisting of information associated with the payload, information which may be included in the header portion of the additional information is set as the key information, and if the key information is included in the header portion, the data portion associated with the header portion is transmitted to said first information processing terminal.

49. A method of transferring additional information according to Claim 46, wherein said transmitting step transmits, in addition to the additional information including the key information, the main information of the

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50. A method of transferring additional information according to Claim 46, wherein said transferring step transfers accompanying information obtained by said first information processing terminal in association with the additional information.

52. An information processing terminal comprising:

a control unit which determines whether preset key information is included in the transferred additional information; and

a network communications unit for transmitting the additional information onto a communications network if said

control unit determines that the key information is included in the additional information.

53. An information processing terminal according to Claim 52, wherein if the additional information includes a data portion consisting of a payload and a header portion consisting of information associated with the payload, information which may be included in the header portion of the additional information is set as the key information, and if the key information is included in the header portion, said network communications unit transmits the additional information including the header portion.

54. An information processing terminal according to Claim 52, wherein if the additional information includes a data portion consisting of a payload and a header portion consisting of information associated with the payload, information which may be included in the header portion of the additional information is set as the key information, and if the key information is included in the header portion, said network communications unit transmits the data portion associated with the header portion.

55. An information processing terminal according to Claim 52, wherein if said control unit determines that the

key information is included in the additional information, said network communications unit transmits, in addition to the additional information including the key information, the main information of the associated program.

56. An information processing terminal according to Claim 52, wherein if said control unit determines that the key information is included in the additional information, said network communications unit transmits accompanying information obtained by said information processing terminal in association with the additional information.

FIG. 22